

APPLICANT(S): Assaf Shapir
SERIAL NO.: 10/537,857
FILED: 06/07/2005
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3 and 4. These sheets, which include Figures 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3 and 4, replace the original sheets including Figures 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3 and 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. Claims 6-9 and 15-19 have been objected to. Claims 1-5, 9-14 and 19 have been rejected. Claims 1, 9, and 19 have been voluntarily amended.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the amendments to the claims and drawings add no new matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully notes that in the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 6-8 and 15-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims.

Remarks to the Drawings

Figures 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3 and 4 have been amended by being designated a legend reading "Prior Art". The replacement sheets containing each corrected drawing are attached for review by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 9 and 19 because of alleged informalities. Claims 9 and 19 have been amended in order to cure these informalities. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12-14 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Wooldridge, Patent No. US 6,515,909 – filed Oct. 5, 2001. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection because the cited reference does not teach all the limitations recited in this claim. More specifically:

Each of the independent claims as filed, 1, 9 and 19, recited the limitations of an erase pulse having a "non-constant voltage profile". Whereas, the cited reference only mentions changing the duration of an erase pulse. The change in duration taught in the cited reference does not change the "voltage profile" of the pulse, only the period of time a given predefined voltage is being applied during a single erase pulse. Thus, the cited reference does not anticipate the claims as filed.

However, in the interest of furthering the prosecution of the present application, Applicant has voluntarily amended claims 1, 9 and 19 to replace the term "non-constant voltage profile" with "non-flat voltage profile". This amendment is believed to further clarify the claimed invention. These amendments were not made in response to any cited prior art and Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation having claims of similar or broader scopes of claims 1, 9 and 19.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of independent claims 1, 9 and 19 and all claims dependent upon claims 1 and 9.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Wooldridge, Patent No. US 6,515,909 – filed Oct. 5, 2001 in view of Pio, Patent No. US 6,643,184 B2, filed (1/24/02). [Applicant would like to point out to the Examiner that he apparently mistyped the patent number of Wooldridge in his rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), while stating patent number 5,966,386. Applicant is assuming that the Examiner meant to cite the same Wooldridge reference as cited against in the 102(b) rejection.]

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Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims over Wooldridge, Patent No. US 6,515,909 – filed Oct. 5, 2001 in view of Pio, Patent No. US 6,643,184 B2, filed (1/24/02), in light of the remarks that follow. Claims 3 and 11 are considered allowable by virtue of their dependence on allowable base claims 1 and 9, as established above in the argument regarding rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Wooldridge.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are considered to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3400.

Respectfully submitted,



Vladimir Sherman
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 43,116

Dated: January 8, 2006
Eitan Law Group, LLP.